



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

March 09, 2017

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 236** (Maienschein) – As Introduced on January 30, 2017 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblyman Maienschein:

The San Bernardino County is writing in support of AB 236, which increases options for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) temporary housing assistance program.

Under current law, families who are homeless can receive temporary shelter assistance for a period of 16 consecutive days once every twelve (12) months. Limiting temporary housing assistance to 16 consecutive days may result in homeless families being refused their temporary housing due to circumstances including family emergencies, offers of temporary housing from family or friends, or housing opportunities elsewhere. Additionally, the nightly rate is limited to \$65 per night with a daily maximum (allowing for additional family members) of \$125, which is inadequate to afford sufficient nightly shelter for families. These limitations make it difficult for the program to achieve its purpose of reducing homelessness for families.

AB 236 would increase options for CalWORKs families while also improving the effectiveness of the temporary housing assistance program by removing the consecutive days requirement that would enable families to receive 16 total days per year of temporary housing assistance. Additionally, AB 236 would increase the nightly voucher amount from \$65 to \$85 for a family of 4 and the daily maximum from \$125 to \$145 to increase the ability to find adequate housing for families.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 236. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lovingood".

Robert Lovingood
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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